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 TI Prepn. of cellulose fibre for filtering blood - by ester cleavage of cellulose ester fibres using agent dissolved in solvent which does not dissolve cellulose ester(s).
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The prepn. of cellulose fibres for the removal of leucocytes from blood liquids esp. blood platelet prepn. by filtration comprises at least partial conversion of cellulose ester fibres into cellulose fibres by treatment with an agent which causes cleavage of esters and which is dissolved in a solvent in which the cellulose ester will not dissolve.

Pref. cellulose acetate fibres are used. The cellulose ester fibres are pref. hydrolysed with NaOH in ethanol, esp. a soln. of 0.1-139 g/l NaOH in ethanol, pref. used in an amt. of 0.1-100 ml/g of the cellulose ester fibres. Pref. the cellulose ester fibres are treated for 2-3 hrs. at room temp. with the cleavage agent. After treatment the fibres are pref. washed, esp. with ethanol, then water and again with ethanol. The resulting cellulose fibres are pref. in Y condition and pref. have av. dia. 15 micro-m.

USE/ADVANTAGE - The cellulose fibres can be used to filter human blood platelet concentrates to remove leucocytes. The filter is capable of removing 97-98% of all leucocytes present and yet removes no more than 5% of the blood platelet. The cellulose fibres can be obtd. simply and give homogeneous fibre measurements. The fibre are of a pharmaceutically acceptable quality.
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